

PLEASE EXPEDITE-Response to Final Office Action Dated 2/08/2005

Remarks/Arguments**I. Response to Rejections Under 35 USC §102(e)**

At page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 12, 30, and 31 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by "Taylor" (U.S. Published Patent Application No. 20020109677). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection since Taylor does not disclose all of the limitations of the Applicants' claimed invention. More specifically, Taylor does not disclose a method that includes "receiving a sequence of characters that represents the movement of a user's finger tracing a pattern on said touchpad, said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 1. Nor does Taylor disclose an electronic system having "a signal conditioner for receiving a sequence of characters that represents the movements of a user's finger tracing a pattern on said touchpad, said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 12. Nor does Taylor disclose a program storage device readable by machine having a method in coded thereon in which access is permitted to an operating mode of a computing device by way of a finger tracing a pattern "said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 30. Support for these claim amendments can be found at page 9, lines 20-21 of the specification.

In Taylor, a touchpad code entry system is disclosed. Taylor includes a touchpad having a plurality of distinct zones, wherein the movement of a user's finger on the surface of the touchpad between zones, the active lifting a finger off the touchpad, the act of placing a finger on the touchpad, and the like, generates characters that are transmitted from the touchpad to a receiving device. However, nowhere in Taylor is there any mention, or suggestion of a pattern in which "said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in the applicants amended independent claims.

Accordingly, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

At page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 12, 30, and 31 are rejected under 35 USC§102(a) as being anticipated by Lambert (U.S. Patent Number 6,193,153).

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In Lambert, a method and apparatus for non-intrusive biometric capture is disclosed. In Lambert, a computer peripheral device for providing a computer system with user input data and user biometric data includes an event sensing portion for detecting a user action. However, Lambert does not disclose all of the limitations of the Applicants' claimed invention. More specifically, Lambert does not disclose a method that includes "receiving a sequence of characters that represents the movement of a user's finger tracing a pattern on said touchpad, said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 1. Nor does Lambert disclose an electronic system having "a signal conditioner for receiving a sequence of characters that represents the movements of a user's finger tracing a pattern on said touchpad, said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 12. Nor does Lambert disclose a program storage device readable by machine having a method in coded thereon in which access is permitted to an operating mode of a computing device by way of a finger tracing a pattern "said pattern including at least one pause", as recited in amended independent claim 30. Support for these claim amendments can be found at page 9, lines 20-21 of the specification.

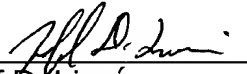
Accordingly, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

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II. Additional Fees:

It is not believed that additional fees are due at this time; however, if any additional fee is required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully Submitted,
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